

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a docking station;

a portable computer system that outputs a signal containing a password after slid into said docking station, wherein said docking station receives and outputs said signal;

a reader device receives said signal from said docking station, said reader device outputs a release signal if said password is authorized; and

an entryway locking mechanism that unlocks upon receipt of said release signal.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises a personal digital assistant (PDA).

14. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises a pager.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises a portable telephone.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises a laptop computer system.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said password is unique.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said docking station comprises a mechanical and electrical interface for interfacing with a communication interface of said portable computer system.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises software that tracks the time and date of an ingress of said portable computer system.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said docking station enables communication between said portable computer system and said reader device.

21-30. (Canceled).

31. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said password is common.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises a calculator.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises software that tracks the time and date of an egress of said portable computer system.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises software that creates a personal log documenting ingress and egress of said portable computer system.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said portable computer system comprises a memory device that stores said password.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 35 wherein said password is programmed and stored within said memory device by interfacing with controls of said portable computer system.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 35 wherein said password is programmed and stored within said memory device via a communication interface of said portable computer system.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 12 wherein said docking station comprises a button that initiates communication between said portable computer system and said reader device.

39-51. (Canceled).

52. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

~~— a portable computing device; and~~

an radio frequency identification integrated circuit, coupled to ~~said~~ portable computing device, that automatically broadcasts a security code in response to being located within a radio frequency signal field, wherein said security code is used to authorize access to an area and said radio frequency identification integrated circuit is energized by said radio frequency signal field; and

said portable computing device including a processor and software, said processor coupled to said radio frequency identification integrated circuit, said software operates on said portable computing device and tracks the time and date of an ingress of said portable computing device.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 52, wherein said security code is unique or common.

54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 52, wherein said portable computing device is a personal digital assistant (PDA), a pager, a calculator, a portable communication device, or a laptop computer system.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 52, wherein said radio frequency identification integrated circuit is coupled to said portable computing device with a snap-on adapter.

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 55, wherein said snap-on adapter is fabricated from plastic, nylon, or carbon fiber.

57. (Canceled).

58. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claims ~~57~~ 52, wherein said software further tracks the time and data of an egress of said portable computing device.

59. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
automatically transmitting a security code from an radio frequency identification integrated circuit coupled to a portable computing device when the radio frequency identification integrated circuit is located within a radio frequency signal field, wherein said radio frequency signal field energizes said radio frequency identification integrated circuit; ~~and~~
receiving access to a secured area if the transmitted security code is authorized;
not receiving access to the secured area if the transmitted security code is not authorized;

and

creating a log on said portable computing device documenting ingress and egress of said
secured area by said portable computing device coupled to said radio frequency identification
integrated circuit.

60. (Previously Presented) The method as described in Claim 59, wherein said security code is unique or common.

61. (Previously Presented) The method as described in Claim 59, wherein said portable computing device is a personal digital assistant (PDA), a pager, a calculator, a portable communication device, or a laptop computer system.

62. (Previously Presented) The method as described in Claim 59, wherein said radio frequency identification integrated circuit is coupled to said portable computing device by a snap-on adapter.

63-64. (Canceled).